

Amendment to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of formal drawing of FIG. 1 replaces the previous formal drawing of FIG. 1 submitted with the parent application filed June 23, 2003. The attached sheet of the formal drawing of FIG. 1 corrects the misalignment of lead line 36 so that instead of leading to line 34, line 36 now leads to the line running between line 56 and condenser 50. This change does not introduce new matter.

Attachment: Annotated Sheets Showing Changes in Red and replacement sheet for formal drawings of FIG. 1.

REMARKS

The above Amendments and these Remarks are submitted under 35 U.S.C. § 132 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 in response to the Office Action mailed April 4, 2006.

Summary of the Examiner's Action

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-9, 12-22 and 25-29 on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-29 of U.S. Patent No. 6,187,465 in view of Galloway (U.S. Patent No. 4,874,587).

The Examiner also has rejected claims 30 and 31 on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-29 of U.S. Patent No. 6,187,465 in view of Galloway (U.S. Patent No. 4,874,587) and Voecks (U.S. Patent No. 4,909,808).

The Examiner has objected to claims 10, 11, 23, and 24 as begin dependent upon a rejected base claim, but the Examiner has found that these claims would be allowable if written in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim.

Summary of the Applicant's Response

The undersigned attorney wishes to thank Examiner Kalafut for the phone interview on Friday, April 21, 2006. In this phone interview and in answer to the Applicant's question, Examiner Kalafut stated that there was no rule to prevent the Applicant from filing a terminal disclaimer to overcome the double patenting rejection in the subject application, canceling claims 10, 11, 23 and 24 from the subject application, and filing these claims in a continuation of the subject application after they have been amended in the form required by the Examiner to place them in an allowable condition.

Accordingly, this response to the April 4, 2006 Office Action is accompanied by a Terminal Disclaimer signed by the Applicant to overcome the double patenting rejection in the subject application. Claims 10, 11, 23 and 24 have been cancelled from the subject application and, after amendment, will be filed in a continuation of the subject application.

Independent claims 1, 17, and 29 have been amended to remove the apparent redundancy

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with the duplicate use of the phrase "carbonaceous-containing medical waste" and to replace this phrase with "other carbonaceous-containing waste." This phrase does not introduce new matter nor raise any new issues. Claims 1-9, 12-22, and 25-31 remain pending in this application and are now in a condition for allowance.

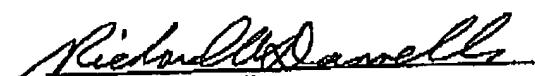
Amendments have been made to specification of the subject application for the purpose of placing the application in better condition for printing and issuance. These amendments to the specification correct errors in syntax, grammatical errors, mathematical errors, and the conclusion drawn from a mathematical error. Finally, FIG. 1 has been amended to correct the misalignment of lead line 36 and a new formal drawing of FIG. 1 has been attached. None of these amendments to either the specification or the drawing introduce new matter.

Conclusion

In view of the amendment to the claims, the accompanying Terminal Disclaimer and the foregoing remarks, the Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims, claims 1-9, 12-22, and 25-31, in the present application are now in an allowable condition. A formal Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

If a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (415) 984-8200.

Respectfully submitted,


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APPENDIX

~~Without Greenhouse Gas Emissions~~
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Attorney Docket No. 3178-TB

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REPLACEMENT SHEET
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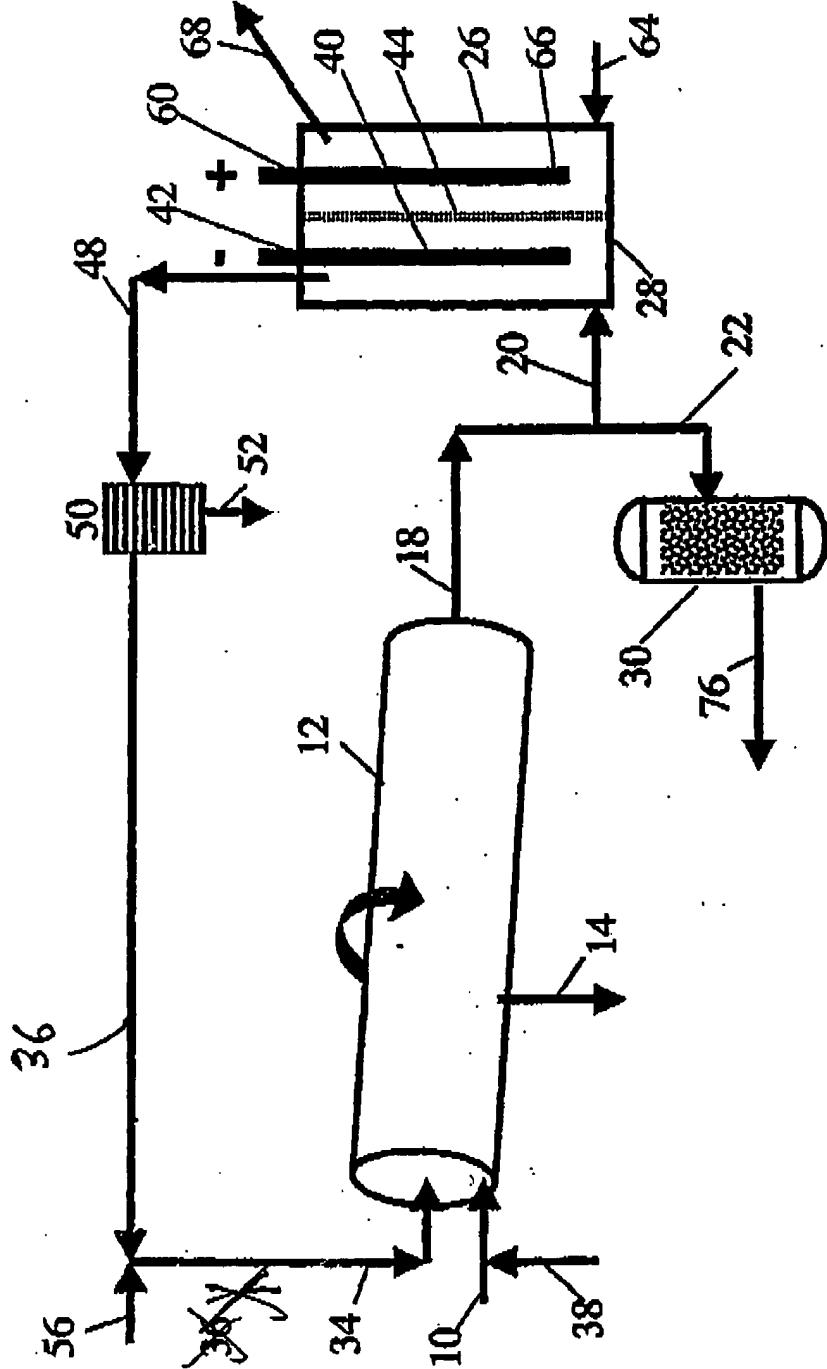


FIG. I